

Application No: 10/665,440 Docket No.: Q137-US7

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

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1.-65. (canceled)

66. (new) A method of constructing an electric storage battery, comprising:

- positioning an electrode assembly in a case,
- the electrode assembly including a first electrode strip and a second electrode strip wound around a pin so as to form a spiral roll,
- the pin being in electrical communication with the first electrode strip;
- fastening a first end cap to the case such that the pin extends through the first end cap; and
- fastening a second end cap to the case such that a tab provides electrical communication between the second electrode strip and the second cap.

67. (new) The method of claim 66, further comprising:

- placing electrolyte in the case through the first end cap after said step of fastening the second end cap to the tab.

68. (new) The method of claim 66, wherein fastening the second end cap to the case includes welding the tab flat against an inner face of the second end cap.

69. (new) The method of claim 66, further comprising:

- positioning a mandrel on the pin; and
- winding the first electrode strip together with the second electrode strip so as to form the spiral roll, the spiral roll being formed after positioning the mandrel on the pin.

70. (new) The method of claim 69, wherein a portion of the first electrode strip is positioned between the mandrel and the pin.

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71. (new) The method of claim 69, further comprising:

crimping the mandrel to the pin before winding the first electrode strip together with the second electrode strip.

72. (new) The method of claim 69, further comprising:

welding the mandrel to the pin before winding the first electrode strip together with the second electrode strip.

73. (new) The method of claim 69, wherein the mandrel is positioned on the pin such that the mandrel is in electrical communication with the pin.

74. (new) The method of claim 66, wherein the pin extends through the first end cap before the first end cap is fastened to the case,

the end cap including an electrical insulator.

75. (new) The method of claim 74, wherein the first end cap includes a conductive member surrounding the insulator.

76. (new) The method of claim 69, wherein the mandrel includes a tube.

77. (new) The method of claim 76, wherein positioning the mandrel on the pin includes positioning the pin in an interior of the tube.

78. (new) The method of claim 69, wherein the mandrel has a c-shaped cross-section.

79. (new) The method of claim 69, wherein positioning the mandrel on the pin includes sliding the mandrel onto the pin.